

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 AGR-20 SWF-02 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1262

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL ADANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: ECEVIT VISITS IZMIR

1. IN WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN HIS LAST MAJOR PRE-CAMPAIGN PUBLIC APPEARANCE PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT CAME TO IZMIR SEPTEMBER FOURTEENTH TO SPEAK AT MASS RALLY AND TO INAUGURATE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPLEX AT ALIAGA. HERO'S WELCOME WAS SLIGHTLY LESS HEROIC THAN WE HAD ANTICIPATED. RALLY, HELD IN WORKING CLASS SECTION OF CITY, WELL ATTENDED, BUT THE APPROXIMATELY TEN THOUSAND PERSONS

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PRESENT DID NOT COMPLETELY FILL SQUARE.

2. DURING SPEECH ECEVIT FORCED TO CONTEND WITH OVEREXUBERANT SUPPORTERS NEAR PODIUM WHO INTERRUPTED HIM SEVERAL TIMES AND WITH COTTON FARMERS SEEKING GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPPORT PRICE. BULK OF CROWD NOTICEABLY INANIMATE. CHANTS OF "HALKCI (POPULIST) ECEVIT" AND "KAHRAMAN (HERO) ECEVIT" WERE CONFINED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AREAS NEAR SPEAKERS' PLATFORM. PERSONS IN MORE DISTANT

AREAS TOO FAR AWAY TO BE SWEEPED UP IN EMOTION GENERATED BY ECEVIT'S PRESENCE, GENERALLY STOOD IN SELF-CONSCIOUS SILENCE.

3. SPEECH WAS NOT REMARKABLE EXCEPT FOR INOPERATIVE ASSERTION BY ECEVIT THAT HE GOING TO SCANDINAVIA AS NATIONAL NOT GOVERNMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE AND FOR RELATIVELY CANDID STATEMENT ABOUT COTTON PRICES. IN LATTER ECEVIT SAID LOW WORLD MARKET PRICE WAS REASON GOVERNMENT HAD NOT YET ANNOUNCED SUPPORT PRICE. HE PROMISED EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT AND IMPLIED PRICES WOULD NOT BE MUCH ABOVE SEVEN TURKISH LIRA.

4. RPP SUPPORTERS NOT ENTIRELY SATISFIED WITH ECEVIT'S

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APPEARANCE. RALLY WAS NOT WELL ORGANIZED. SOUND SYSTEM WAS INADEQUATE. EXCESSIVELY PROTECTIVE TRAFFIC CONTROL REPORTEDLY PREVENTED SOME SUPPORTERS FROM ATTENDING RALLY. CONSTANT INTERRUPTIONS DETRACTED FROM IMPACT OF SPEECH WHICH, BECAUSE IT WAS SHORT ON NEW IDEAS, WAS DEPENDENT OF DELIVERY FOR EFFECT. FINALLY THERE WAS SIMPLE DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE INNOCENT ADMIRER WHO UPON SEEING HIS IDOL IN THE FLESH REALIZES HE'S JUST A MAN--A MAN WHO CAN BE FRUSTRATED BY A POORLY ORGANIZED RALLY.
SMITH

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